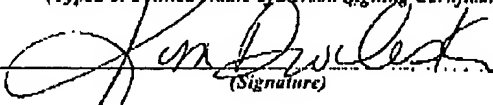


CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)			Docket No. BUR920040116US1
Applicant(s): Furukawa et al.			
Application No. 10/710,675	Filing Date 7/28/2004	Examiner Chaudhari, Chandra P.	Group Art Unit 2829
Invention: BORDERLESS CONTACT STRUCTURES			
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>Restriction Election (2 pages)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>(Identify type of correspondence)</small></p> <p>is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>703-872-9306</u>)</p> <p>on <u>3/11/2005</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>(Date)</small></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 100px;"> <u>Kim Dwileski</u> <small>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</small>  <small>(Signature)</small> </div>			
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

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Docket No. BUR920040116US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Furukawa *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 2829

Filed: 7/28/2004

Examiner: Chaudhari, Chandra P.

Serial No.: 10/710,675

Title: **BORDERLESS CONTACT STRUCTURES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESTRICTION ELECTION

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 16, 005, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a method of making a semiconductor device, Class 438, subclass 238. This election is made with traverse, and Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a divisional application in connection with unelected claims 19-32, drawn to a semiconductor device.

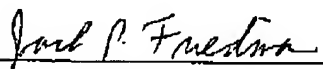
With regard to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all claims 1-32 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the search and the examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803, in which it is stated

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that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." Applicants respectfully submit that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Should the Examiner require or request anything further from Applicants prior to examination, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below. Otherwise, Applicants request early and favorable examination on the merits.

Date: 03/11/2005


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